

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace Page 10, line 1 through Page 11, line 6 with the following (which corrects only those informalities identified by the Examiner on Page 3, line 1-4 of the Office Action):

Figure 3 shows a system **50** construction according to one aspect of the present invention. The system **50** comprises the photoconductor element **52** (which may be a belt or drum, but which is shown here in this non-limiting example as a belt), the primary surface charging corona device **54**, the secondary corona device **56**, the conductive stripe **58** which is separated from the photoconductor element **52** by a distance **60**. The second corona device **56** overlays the conductive stripe **58** and does not extend significantly over (if at all) the remainder of the photoconductor element **52**. When the primary corona device **54** applies a positive charge, the secondary corona device **56** would apply negative ions to the conductive stripe **58**. Similarly, if the primary corona applies negative ions, the secondary corona device **56** would apply positive ions. The intervening imaging and toning stations are not shown for the convenience and simplicity of the figures.

Figure 4 shows a perspective edge view of a conductive sheet **80** (which may be a drum surface, sheet or endless belt) comprising a photoconductive top layer **82**, a conductive intermediate layer **84** and a dielectric support layer **86**. A conductive stripe **88** is shown as a complete element **88** in electrical contact with the three layers **82**, **84** and **86**, although it may be only a thin stripe coated on top of the photoconductive layer and possibly around the edge **90** formed by the three layers **82**, **84** and **86**. In a cutaway section, the secondary corona device **56** and its spacing **60** from the conductive stripe **88** are shown.

In order to ascertain that the conductive stripe is maintained at a reference voltage (in this case, as close as possible to zero volts (0V) is preferred), additional electronic servo hardware may be employed to monitor the surface potential and adjust the voltage (or current) of the second corona charging device. Figure 5 shows one embodiment of such a monitoring/adjusting system **100**. Figure 5 shows a side view of a photoreceptor belt **101** (having the same construction as that shown in Figure 4) having a front surface **104** and a back surface **106**. The second corona charging device **108** is positioned over

the conductive stripe **102**. The monitoring/adjusting system **100** may comprise an electrostatic probe **110** positioned (preferably, as close as possible) over the surface of the conductive stripe **102**, down stream of the second corona charging device **108**. (In this illustration the photoreceptor **101** is moving in a direction shown by arrow **112**). The monitoring and adjusting system **100** then comprises an electrical path **114** for the signal transmitted from the electrostatic probe **110** which is then sent to an error amplifier **116**. The error amplifier **116** then compares the signal from the electrostatic probe **110** with reference data **118** (in this case, ground or 0V). The signal then leaves the error amplifier **116** and is sent to a high voltage amplifier **120** that sends the appropriate voltage or current of the correct polarity to the second corona charging device **108**, to maintain the voltage at the desired potential (in this case, as close to 0V as possible).